ALUMNI BULLETIN

Diamond Jubilee Edition

October 1969 MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY October 1969

Anniversary Banquet Highlights Presidential Inaugural

PROMINENT INVESTIGATORS SPARKING NEW M.C.O. RESEARCH PROGRAM

An exciting new world of visual science is being evolved at M.C.O. under the creative and scientific eyes of two new research and teaching professors. A laboratory for electrophysiology is being set up at the college which will begin a new teaching tract, the structure and function of the visual system. The research that the doctors will be conducting in this new laboratory will back up their teaching curriculum, plus discover new and valuable information in the field of vision. Electrophysiology is the use of electronic recorders and machines to determine how the visual system codes information to produce vision.

Dr. James W. Walters and Dr. Jerry L. Christensen have done extensive background work in the field of electrophysiology in order to discover how vision actually records and transmits the information received so that we actually "see" something. Christensen, an O.D. who heads the new tract, has a Ph.D. in Physiological Optics. He attended Ohio State and studied under Dr. Glen Fry. He also participated in microelectrode recording in visual systems of opossums in conjunction with Dr. Hill at the University.

Dr. Walters attended Michigan State where his major professor was S. Howard Bartley. He has done psychophysical work with metacontrast, and microelectrode work in visual systems of cats and has conducted research with human electroretinagrams. He received a Ph.D. in experimental psychology and his major interest is the physiology of vision which he now hopes to pursue as co-partner with Dr. Christensen at M.C.O.

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PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION

All alumni will have the opportunity to meet with Dr. William R. Baldwin, new M.C.O. President, and leading officers of the College at a reception prior to the Diamond Jubilee Banquet and Installation of President Baldwin to be held at the Marriott Motor Hotel on October 8. Dr. and Mrs. Baldwin, along with officers of the Board of Trustees will greet guests in a reception line beginning at 5:30.

Pacific University Head To Deliver Keynote Address

The former mentor of Dr. William R. Baldwin, new President of M.C.O., is journeying all the way across the continent in tribute to Dr. Baldwin at the Diamond Jubilee Banquet and Installation at the Marriott Motor Hotel on October 8th, in Newton, Massachusetts. His former mentor, distinguished educator, M. A. F. Ritchie, the President of Pacific University, will be the principal speaker at the Banquet. Dr. Baldwin was Dean of Pacific University, College of Optometry where he led a major expansion program.

Dr. M. A. F. Ritchie

Dr. Ritchie's varied and prolific career through the years has gradually led him to the presidency of a prominent western unversity but it all began on the east coast in a little southern town where he was born, son of a minister. He worked his way through college in the east and did advanced studies at several universities. He received an A.B. degree in 1923, and taught in high schools for several years, later working on a daily newspaper and doing public relations and admissions work for his alma mater. Dr. Ritchie completed a Master's Degree from William and Mary College.

During World War II, he volunteered for naval service, emerging as a lieutenant commander. After the war, he became a professor and department head at the University of Miami and has held important college posts since then.

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Connecticut Optometrists To Sponsor First Alumni Meeting

The first fall meeting of the Massachusetts College of Optometry Alumni Association will be held at the Holiday Inn in Meriden, Connecticut on Wednesday evening, October 29, it was announced by Dr. Alton W. Lamont, Alumni President. Dr. William R. Baldwin, new President of the Massachusetts College of Optometry will be the principal speaker. The Dinner will begin at 7:30 P.M. A special bus will leave at 5:30 P.M. from the Riverside MBTA Station in Newton. Dr. Joseph Bickford is the program chairman and a full schedule of events is planned for the season with special meetings to be held in each state.

Dr. Ira Schwartz is coordinating activities for the Connecticut Association, host group of the meeting.

PRESIDENT'S POTPOURRI

by Alton W. Lamont

This special Diamond Jubilee edition of the Alumni Bulletin is more than merely a token commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Massachusetts College of Optometry . . . it is more than merely a temporary manifestation of loyalty to alma mater on a once in a lifetime occasion. It is the herald of a new era in college-alumni relations . . . a dramatic indication of the close liaison and even closer rapport which has been in evidence since the arrival of our new president, Dr. William Baldwin, on the scene.

As we prepare to celebrate this Diamond Jubilee of our institution, our institution itself stands on the threshold of excellence. In this and subsequent issues of the Alumni Bulletin and at Alumni meetings throughout New England this Fall and Winter, you will be informed about the dramatic strides which Massachusetts College of Optometry has already taken, and of the ambitious programs which are planned for the immediate future.

Verily, our college stands on the threshold of excellence as it moves forward into an era which will insure its position as a professional school of first rank. All of us who are members of the family of Massachusetts College of Optometry must cross the threshold together.

As alumni, it behooves us to demonstrate the enthusiasm and loyalty which our alma mater has earned from us. First, in part payment of the debt we owe Massachusetts College of Optometry for preparing us for our profession . . . secondly, for the prestige which will be reflected upon us as it achieves eminent stature under the dynamic leadership which has already been displayed by President Baldwin.

The Diamond Jubilee Banquet at the Marriott Motor Hotel marks the most important occasion in the history of our institution. College and university presidents, federal, state and municipal officials, heads of colleges of optometry and leaders in the optometric profession from throughout the nation will be present to join in the tribute to Dr. Baldwin and to participate in the commemoration of our seventy-fifth anniversary.

Every loyal alumnus should be included in the vast assembly which will be present for this event.

Please send in your reservation card immediately. If you have misplaced it, send your check for the number of places you wish to reserve at $12.50 per plate to my attention at the college.

Dr. James Walters (left), head of the new teaching tract and laboratory for electrophysiology, tests out equipment prior to actual lab set-up, with Senior James Begun (right), who will be assisting the two doctors on a part-time basis in all aspects of laboratory function. Equipment includes an Oscilloscope which will display electrical activity of the central nervous system and a special FM tape recorder which has a response to frequencies of 0 to 20,000 cycles per second. This will store the oscilloscope signals for later playback. Also shown is a Milli Microvoltmeter.

RESEARCH

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An allocation of $30,000 has been given to Drs. Walters and Christensen by the college to develop this new section. The laboratory will have two basic purposes: it will be a place where students can see teaching demonstrations and a place where they will be able to conduct research in a limited fashion as assistants. Major equipment in the laboratory includes a computer of average transients, known as C.A.T. and an FM tape recorder which will permit the acquisition of analog signals on tape. These will be backed up by a full range of electronic and histological equipment. In addition, the doctors are making major improvements in dark room facilities for photography which will support both classroom and research activities. They have constructed a workshop with power tools, another first for the college, in order to build any technical or mechanical items needed for the new teaching tract and research program.

The challenging ambition of this new area of visual science has in its charge, the microelectric recording of the entire range of the central nervous system from retina to cortex in order to discover how we see, and to take electroretinagrams (ERG) of humans and animals to determine cortical potentials.

NEW FACULTY MEMBERS HERALD EXPANSION PROGRAM

Along with our new President, Dr. Baldwin, M.C.O. has a whole new sweep of faculty members slated to help the college advance in its educational goals. Among the new faces of freshmen will be new faces of faculty.

Richard D. Hazlett, O.D., Director of Professional and Community Affairs, will be in charge of the Clinic which has also had a face-lift with new furniture, lighting, painting and carpeting in the first floor waiting and reception room. Dr. Hazlett's teaching responsibilities include courses in Optometry and Optometric Orientation.

Dr. Frederick C. Bleck, a psychologist with a Ph.D., will be giving a course called Analysis of Data, along with Dr. Eugene A. Craig, a Ph.D. psychologist, who will also be teaching Analysis of Data plus conducting a Seminar in Psychology.

Dr. Jerry L. Christensen and Dr. James W. Walters, heads of the new laboratory for electrophysiology, described elsewhere in the Bulletin, will be teaching and doing research in that field.

Dr. D. J. Lovell, Associate Professor of Optics, will conduct a course in Geometric Optics.

Dr. Srinivas Rajan, from India, a Ph.D. will be an assistant Professor of Physiology and has majored in veterinarian science, animal husbandry and dairy nutrition. He will teach Cell Biology and Comparative Physiology.

Sidney Whittenberg, O.D. will be coordinator in tract optometry, teach environmental vision and conduct a seminar issue in optometry.

Joining the faculty on January 1 of 1970 will be Dr. Edmund Walkowiak, a Ph. D. who will be an Associate Professor of Physiology.

Your Alumni Association has planned an extensive program for the coming year, to follow this Diamond Jubilee Banquet and to carry on the enthusiasm generated by the inauguration of our new President and the exciting plans in store for the college.

Alumni Calendar 1969-1970

9/3/69 – Alumni officers and college administration meeting
9/7/69 – Alumni, administration, and student reception
9/10/69 – Alumni executive meeting
10/1/69 – Alumni executive meeting (sub-committee workshops)
10/8/69 – Diamond Jubilee Banquet and Installation
10/29/69 – Fall alumni meeting at Holiday Inn, Meriden, Connecticut; Speaker: President Baldwin
11/1/69 (approx.) – Fall Alumni Bulletin
11/12/69 – Executive committee dinner meeting (place to be announced), 5 p.m.; Alumni-Senior Smoker to follow
1/7/70 – Alumni executive committee meeting
1/14/70 – Winter Alumni Bulletin
1/28/70 – Winter alumni meeting, Providence, Rhode Island; Speaker: President Baldwin
2/18/70 – Alumni executive meeting
3/15/70 – Annual alumni luncheon, N.E.C.O.
4/15/70 – Spring alumni meeting, Concord, New Hampshire; Speaker: President Baldwin
5/15/70 – Spring Alumni Bulletin
6/ /70 – M.C.O. Graduation
6/21/70 – Hawaii A.O.A. Convention and
8/1/70 – Summer Alumni Bulletin

KEYNOTER

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Although born and bred in the South, Dr. Ritchie became well-known as a lecturer on race relations and is an ardent advocate of equality and opportunity for blacks. Although now an accomplished speaker, Dr. Ritchie failed in college to get on a debating team by going blank in the middle of his presentation. Forty years later he was given the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Tau Kappa Alpha, National Forensics Fraternity.

The recipient of four honorary doctorates from colleges and universities, Dr. Ritchie has worked actively also in fields of social science. The Urban League, the National Conference of Christians and Jews and the American Jewish Committee have given him citations for work in human relations. He received the Ernest O. Melby Award from New York University for distinguished service in this field.

As a writer, Dr. Ritchie has authored many articles which have appeared in professional and popular journals and has contributed much professional writing in the field of education and human relations. He is listed in "Who's Who in America," "Who's Who in American Education," and "Who's Who in the West."

Dr. Richard W. Baker

Dr. William R. Baldwin

HUNDREDS TO GATHER AT BANQUET; MOMENTOUS EVENT IN M.C.O. HISTORY

More than six hundred alumni from all over New England, in addition to distinguished educators and leaders in the field of optometry from throughout the nation are expected to join in the tribute to Dr. Baldwin and to the Diamond Jubilee observance of the nation's oldest College of Optometry at the Marriott Motor Hotel on October 8, in Newton.

Sharing platform honors at the Banquet will be Governor Francis Sargent, bringing greetings of the Commonwealth, Mayor Monte Basbas, bringing greetings from the host city of Newton; Dr. Walker F. Agnew, New England Regional Commissioner for the United States Office of Education; and Dr. Neil Sullivan, Massachusetts Commissioner of Education.

Dr. Alton W. Lamont will bring greetings of the Alumni Association, and Frank Fox, President of the Student Council, will deliver remarks on behalf of the student body.

Dr. Alfred Hanson is chairman of the Banquet, assisted by Dr. Joseph Craven, Dr. G. Burtt Holmes and Dr. Adelbert O. Parrott.

The Presidential Inaugural ceremonies will be conducted by Dr. Richard W. Baker, Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Dr. Hyman Kamens, Dean of the College.

Presidents and representatives of many educational institutions in the Greater Boston area will be attending the Diamond Jubilee Banquet and Installation of President William R. Baldwin at the Marriott Motor Hotel on October 8th. Many warm letters have arrived to congratulate the college and to accept the invitation to attend. Among those who have replied that they will attend are: Father Leonidas Contos, President of Hellenic College, who will also deliver the Benediction; Spurgeon B. Eure, O.D., President of Southern College of Optometry; Dr. John M. Sinclair, Dean of Bentley College; John W. Schermerhorn, Dean of the Division of Health Sciences at Northeastern University; Sister M. Jeanne d'Arc, C.J.S., President of Regis College; E. W. Strawn, O.D., President of the Illinois College of Optometry; Dr. John Whalen, President of Newton College of the Sacred Heart; Lawrence Fitch, President of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry; and Chancellor F. L. Broderick, of the University of Massachusetts.

M.C.O. Pediatrics Clinic Moved to New Location; Top Floor of College Building

A pediatrics clinic for vision has been moved into college headquarters at 178 Newbury Street on the third floor. Equipment used to help and train children with muscle weaknesses which affect their vision has been installed into the renovated area which has four partitions for examination of the children. This visual training and orthoptics unit is now in the process of developing a program at the clinic to examine very young children, as young as six months of age, in order to detect early vision problems so that they may be solved or helped early in life.

Currently there are 65 children undergoing some visual training program in the Pediatric Clinic and there is a long waiting list. For a nominal fee, children can be examined for further training. Most of the children are referred from the Massachusetts College of Optometry Clinic at 472 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, and some 60% are referred by area optometrists who cannot supply the training program needed for these special cases.

Stephen Strebel, Senior, operates Tropo-scope (instrument at left) as Joan Rolfe of Public Relations poses as a patient. On the right, is a Telebinacular, being operated by Edward Traendle, Senior, with Irwin Nathansan, Saphomare, serving as patient. These are only two of the many instruments used in testing children at the Pediatric Clinic.

1895

Attend An Historical Event

1969

Don't forget your M.C.O.

Diamond Jubilee Year

Celebrate at the

DIAMOND JUBILEE BANQUET and INSTALLATION of our New PRESIDENT WILLIAM R. BALDWIN

Wednesday, October 8, 1969

Grand Ballroom

of the

Marriott Motor Hotel

Newton, Massachusetts

Send back your reply card and reserve NOW!

Don't miss our 75th Anniversary